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DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's amendments filed August 18, 2004 have been fully considered and they are deemed to be persuasive.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

- 2. Authorization for Examiner's Amendment to the amendment filed 08/18/2005 was given by Joseph Burwell in a telephone interview on 09/08/2005.
- 3. An examiner's amendment to the amendment filed August 18, 2005 appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
- 4. The application (i.e., the amendment filed on 08/18/2005) has been amended as follows:
- a) In Claim 9, line 31 (i.e. line 31 of claim 9), deleted "." after "the object".
- b) In Claim 9, line 31 (i.e., line 31 of claim 9), inserted ";" after "the object"
- c) In Claim 9, line 31 (i.e., line 31 of claim 9), after "the object;" inserted "and in response to a determination that a serialized attribute version identifier is greater than or subsequent to the class version identifier of the object, refraining from storing in the object a serialized attribute value associated with the serialized attribute version identifier."

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- d) Cancel claim 10
- e) In Claim 22, line 33 (i.e. line 33 of claim 22), deleted "." after "the object".
- f) In Claim 22, line 33 (i.e., line 33 of claim 22), inserted ";" after "the object"
- g) In Claim 22, line 33 (i.e., line 33 of claim 22), after "the object;" inserted "and instructions for refraining from storing in the object a serialized attribute value associated with the serialized attribute version identifier in response to a determination that a serialized attribute version identifier is greater than or subsequent to the class version identifier of the object."
- h) Cancel claim 23
- i) In Claim 27, line 30 (i.e. line 30 of claim 27), deleted "." after "the object".
- j) In Claim 27, line 30 (i.e., line 30 of claim 27), inserted ";" after "the object"
- k) In Claim 27, line 30 (i.e., line 30 of claim 27), after "the object;" inserted "and means for refraining from storing in the object a serialized attribute version identifier in response to a determination that a serialized attribute version identifier is greater than or subsequent to the class version identifier of the object."
- I) Cancel claim 29

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 9,11-13,22,24-28 and currently renumbered as 1-10 are allowed over the prior art of record.

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Reasons For Allowance

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for Allowance:

Regarding Independent claims 9,12,22,25 and 27, Applicant's particular method and associated system for providing backwards and forwards compatibility between different versions of serialized object data, which includes identifying an object, wherein the object comprises a set of attributes, wherein each attribute in the set of attributes is associated with a version identifier, and wherein the object is an instance of a first version of a class; writing a data stream representing serialization of the object's attributes and associated version identifiers; reading a data stream representing a serialized object into a new object instance of a second version of a class; and refraining from storing attributes from the data stream into the new object instance that are not represented in the new object instance while reading the data stream in combination with other limitations of the claims, was not disclosed by, would not have been obvious over, nor would have been fairly suggested by the prior art of record.

The dependent claims, being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the specification are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Points of Contact

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Apu M. Mofiz whose telephone number is (571) 272-4080. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Thursday 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached at (571) 272-4146. The fax numbers for the group is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

Apu M. Mofiz
Primary Patent Examiner

Technology Center 2100

September 08,2005